

# Black History Month 2010



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## INTRODUCCION



Cada febrero, el Mes de la Historia Afro-estadounidense nos recuerda las dificultades y triunfos que millones de ciudadanos estadounidenses experimentaron contra los obstáculos más devastadores: la esclavitud, los prejuicios y la pobreza, así como también celebra sus contribuciones a la vida cultural y política del país. La celebración del Mes de la Historia Afro-estadounidense fue idea de Carter G. Woodson, un destacado académico e historiador que instituyó la Semana de la Historia de los Negros en 1926. Eligió la segunda semana de febrero para que coincidiera con los cumpleaños del presidente Abraham Lincoln y del abolicionista Frederick Douglass.

## SITIOS DE INTERNET



### [Black History Heritage Month.](#)

Smithsonian.com. February 2010. Author and scholar Carter G. Woodson established the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915. The son of former slaves, Woodson created the first Negro History Week in 1926 to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. Fifty years later, the association designated the first Black History Month. In honor of this year's celebration, explore the story behind Emmet Till's casket or an unknown pioneer in medical research and discover the history of Motown and World War II Buffalo Soldiers. Tune into Hazel Scott's blend of jazz and classical music, and learn about Black History Month celebrations at the Smithsonian and the around the country.

## SITIOS DE GOBIERNO



### [Presidential Proclamation—National AfricanAmerican History Month.](#)

The White House. Office of the Press Secretary The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. For Immediate Release. February 01, 2010

*"In the centuries since African Americans first arrived on our shores, they have known the bitterness of slavery and oppression, the hope of progress, and the triumph of the American Dream. African American history is an essential thread of the American narrative that traces our Nation's enduring struggle to perfect itself. Each February, we recognize African American History Month as a moment to reflect upon how far we have come as a Nation, and what challenges remain. This year's theme, "The History of Black Economic Empowerment," calls upon us to honor the African Americans who overcame injustice and inequality to achieve financial independence and the security of self empowerment that comes with it.*

*Nearly 100 years after the Civil War, African Americans still faced daunting challenges and indignities. Widespread racial prejudice inhibited their opportunities, and institutional discrimination such as black codes and Jim Crow laws denied them full citizenship rights. Despite these seemingly impossible barriers, pioneering African Americans blazed trails for themselves and their children. They became skilled workers and professionals. They purchased land, and a new generation of black entrepreneurs founded banks, educational institutions, newspapers, hospitals, and businesses of all kinds.*

*This month, we recognize the courage and tenacity of so many hard-working Americans whose legacies are woven into the fabric of our Nation. We are heirs to their extraordinary progress. Racial prejudice is no longer the steepest barrier to opportunity for most African Americans, yet substantial obstacles remain in the remnants of past discrimination. Structural inequalities -- from disparities in education and health care to the vicious cycle of poverty -- still pose enormous hurdles for black communities across America.*

*Overcoming today's challenges will require the same dedication and sense of urgency that enabled past generations of African Americans to rise above the injustices of their time. That is why my Administration is laying a new foundation for long-term economic growth that helps more than just a privileged few. We are working hard to give small businesses much-needed credit, to slash tax breaks for companies that ship jobs overseas, and to give those same breaks to companies that create jobs here at home. We are also reinvesting in our schools and making college more affordable, because a world class education is our country's best roadmap to prosperity.*

*These initiatives will expand opportunities for African Americans, and for all Americans, but parents and community leaders must also be partners in this effort. We must push our children to reach for the full measure of their potential, just as the innovators who succeeded in previous generations pushed their children to achieve something greater. In the volumes of black history, much remains unwritten. Let us add our own chapter, full of progress and ambition, so that our children's children will know that we, too, did our part to erase an unjust past and build a brighter future.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim February 2010 as National African American History Month. I call upon public officials, educators, librarians, and all the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand ten, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fourth."*

BARACK OBAMA





### [U.S. Department of Commerce. U.S. Census Bureau News.](#)

Facts for Feature: Black (African-American) History Month, February 2010. To commemorate and celebrate the contributions to our nation made by people of African descent, American historian Carter G. Woodson established Black History Week. The first celebration occurred on Feb. 12, 1926. For many years, the second week of February was set aside for this celebration to coincide with the birthdays of abolitionist/editor Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. In 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, the week was expanded into Black History Month. Each year, U.S. presidents proclaim February as National African-American History Month.

## POPULATION



### [41.1 million.](#)

As of July 1, 2008, the estimated population of black residents in the United States, including those of more than one race. They made up 13.5 percent of the total U.S. population. This figure represents an increase of more than a half-million residents from one year earlier. Source: Population estimates.



### [65.7 million.](#)

The projected black population of the United States (including those of more than one race) for July 1, 2050. On that date, according to the projection, blacks would constitute 15 percent of the nation's total population. Source: Population projections.



### [18.](#)

Number of states with an estimated black population on July 1, 2008, of at least 1 million. New York, with 3.5 million, led the way. The other 17 states on the list were Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. Source: Population estimates.



### [38%.](#)

Percentage of Mississippi's population that was black in 2008, highest of any state. Blacks also made up more than a quarter of the population in Louisiana in 2008 (32 percent), Georgia (31 percent), Maryland (30 percent), South

Carolina (29 percent) and Alabama (27 percent). They comprise 56 percent of the population in the District of Columbia. Source: Population estimates.



[67,000](#)

The increase in Georgia's black population between July 1, 2007, and July 1, 2008, which led all states. Texas (64,000), North Carolina (45,000) and Florida (41,000) also recorded large increases. Source: Population estimates



[24](#)

Number of states or equivalents in which blacks were the largest minority group in 2008. These included Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin. (Note: Minorities are part of a group other than single-race non-Hispanic white.) Source: Population estimates.



[1.4 million](#)

The number of blacks in Cook County, Ill., as of July 1, 2008, which led the nation's counties in the number of people of this racial category. Orleans Parish, La., had the largest numerical increase in the black population between July 1, 2007, and July 1, 2008 (16,400). Source: Population estimates.



[Among counties with total populations of at least 10,000](#)

Claiborne County, Miss., had the largest percent of population that was black (84.4 percent). Claiborne led 77 majority-black counties or equivalents, all of which were in the South. Source: Population estimates.



[30%](#).

The proportion of the black population younger than 18 as of July 1, 2008. At the other end of the spectrum, 8 percent of the black population was 65 and older. Source: Population estimates.

**Note:** Unless otherwise noted, the estimates in this section refer to the population that was either single-race black or black in combination with one or more other races.

## SERVING OUR NATION



[2.3 million](#)

Number of single-race black military veterans in the United States in 2008. More military veterans are black than any other minority group. Source: 2008 American Community Survey.

## EDUCATION



[83%](#)

Among blacks 25 and older, the proportion who had at least a high school diploma in 2008. Source: Educational Attainment in the United States: 2008



[20%](#)

Percentage of blacks 25 and older who had a bachelor's degree or higher in 2008. Source: Educational Attainment in the United States: 2008



[1.4 million](#)

Among blacks 25 and older, the number who had an advanced degree in 2008 (e.g., master's, doctorate, medical or law). In 1998, 857,000 blacks had this level of education. Source: Educational Attainment in the United States: 2008 .



[2.5 million](#)

Number of black college students in fall 2008. This was roughly double the corresponding number from 15 years earlier. Source: School Enrollment – Social and Economic Characteristics of Students: October 2008 .

## **VOTING**



[About 2.1 million](#)

The increase in the number of black voters between the 2004 and 2008 presidential elections, to 16.1 million. The total number of voters rose by 5.4 million, to 131.1 million. Source: Voting and Registration in the Election of 2008.



[55%](#)

Turnout rate in the 2008 presidential election for the 18- to 24-year-old citizen black population, an 8 percent increase from 2004. Blacks had the highest turnout rate in this age group. Source: Voting and Registration in the Election of 2008.



[65%](#)

Turnout rate among black citizens in the 2008 presidential election, up about 5 percentage points from 2004. Looking at voter turnout by race and Hispanic origin, non-Hispanic whites and blacks had the highest turnout levels. Source: Voting and Registration in the Election of 2008.



## INCOME, POVERTY AND HEALTH INSURANCE



[\\$34,218](#)

The annual median income of single-race black households in 2008, a decline of 2.8 percent (in 2008 constant dollars) from 2007. Source: Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2008.



[24.7%](#)

Poverty rate in 2008 for single-race blacks, statistically unchanged from 2007. Source: Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2008



[19.1%](#)

The percentage of single-race blacks lacking health insurance in 2008, not statistically different from 2007. Source: Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2008.

## FAMILIES AND CHILDREN



[63%](#)

Among households with a single-race black householder, the percentage that contained a family. There were 8.5 million black family households. Source: 2008 American Community Survey





[44%](#)

Among families with single-race black householders, the percentage that were married couples. Source: 2008 American Community Survey.



[1.2 million](#)

Number of single-race black grandparents who lived with their own grandchildren younger than 18. Of this number, 50 percent were also responsible for their care. Source: 2008 American Community Survey

## **HOMEOWNERSHIP – THE AMERICAN DREAM**



[46%](#)

Nationally, the percentage of households with a householder who was single-race black who lived in owner-occupied homes. Source: 2008 American Community Survey.

## **JOBS**



[27%](#)

The percentage of single-race blacks 16 and older who worked in management, professional and related occupations. Source: 2008 American Community Survey

## BUSINESSES



\$88.6 billion Revenues for black-owned businesses in 2002. The number of black-owned businesses totaled nearly 1.2 million in 2002. Black-owned firms accounted for 5 percent of all nonfarm businesses in the United States.



129,329 The number of black-owned firms in New York in 2002, which led all states. New York City alone had 98,080 such firms, which led all cities.



10,716 The number of black-owned firms operating in 2002 with receipts of \$1 million or more. These firms accounted for 1 percent of the total number of black-owned firms in 2002 and 55 percent of their total receipts, or \$49 billion.



[969](#)

The number of black-owned firms with 100 or more employees in 2002. Firms of this size accounted for 24 percent of the total revenue for black-owned employer firms in 2002, or \$16 billion. Source: Black-Owned Firms: 2002

**Note:** The 2007 Preliminary Estimates of Business Ownership by Gender, Ethnicity, and Race will be available in July 2010 and the more detailed 2007 Black-Owned Businesses report will be published in February 2011.

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

FREE: Federal Resources for Educational Excellence.U. S. Topics. Ethnic Group. African Americans.



[FREE](#)

is among the most popular K-12 websites maintained by the U.S. Department of Education because of the many great resources being offered by contributing federal agencies.

## **LIBRARY OF CONGRESS. AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH**



### [The Library of Congress](#)

National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve full citizenship in American society.

## **ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN LIFE AND HISTORY**



### [ASALH](#)

The mission of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History is to promote, research, preserve, interpret and disseminate information about Black life, history and culture to the global community.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

U.S. Department of State. Bureau of International Information Programs (IIP)



### [Beyond Dr. King: More Stories of African American Achievement](#)

Help us write this book. We'll post the first chapters here at regular intervals and we ask readers to suggest future chapters we will include in the Living Book. Leave your thoughts and suggestions in the comment area. And write us, at [livingbooks@state.gov](mailto:livingbooks@state.gov). We'll let you know whenever we publish a new chapter, or launch a new living book.





[Claudette Colvin: The First to Keep Her Seat.](#)

America.gov. January 29. 2010

Teenager arrested in March 1955 for refusing to yield seat to a white rider.



[Ida B. Wells-Barnett: Fighting and Writing for Justice.](#)

America.gov. January 29. 2010.

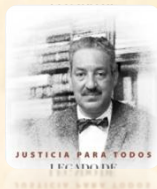
An outspoken journalist who fought for African Americans and women.

## **PUBLICACIONES**



[Literatura pluricultural actual en Estados Unidos.](#)

Estados Unidos cuenta con una abundancia cultural debido a sus inmigrantes procedentes de numerosas naciones. Esta edición de eJournal USA se centra en distinguir a los escritores estadounidenses de diversos orígenes étnicos que aportan una inmensidad a la comprensión y entendimiento mutuo por medio de relatos de sus lugares de origen y sus experiencias como estadounidenses.



[884 Justicia para todos: El legado de Thurgood Marshall.](#)

Fuera de Estados Unidos, el nombre de Thurgood Marshall puede no ser tan conocido como el de Martin Luther King Jr., su compañero en la lucha por los derechos civiles. Sin embargo, los logros de Marshall en la demolición de la estructura legal que sostenía la segregación racial en el sur estadounidense adelantaron la causa de los derechos civiles tan profundamente como lo hicieron las protestas no violentas lideradas por King.



### [Barack Obama.](#)

Elegido el 44º presidente de Estados Unidos, ha vivido una verdadera vida estadounidense, al igual que ha abierto un nuevo capítulo en la política de Estados Unidos. Esta publicación narra la historia de la vida de Obama, describe cómo ganó la presidencia, así como representa su visión para el futuro. Además, introduce a los lectores con la familia Obama y con el nuevo vicepresidente, Joseph Biden.

## **PHOTO GALLERY**



### [Black Economic Empowerment in America.](#)

The following photos chronicle some of the historical and contemporary struggles and success stories of economic empowerment for black Americans in the United States.



### [Nonviolent Protest: Following Martin Luther King Jr.](#)

The most famous American exponent of nonviolent protest was Martin Luther King Jr., who led the civil rights movement in the 1950s and 1960s. "It is no longer a choice between violence and nonviolence in this world; it's nonviolence or nonexistence," King said.



### [President Obama: Year One Highlights.](#)

Since assuming office in January 2009, President Obama has tackled issues from war and peace to improving nutrition and health around the world.



### [African Athletes Shine in American Football.](#)

African athletes have established a solid presence within the U.S. National Football League (NFL), and their high profile as players and role models may lead African audiences to become fans of American football.



### [The U.S. Civil Rights Movement.](#)

During the early 20th century in the American South, racial segregation was the norm, and blacks had limited opportunities. But the 1950s brought forces to bear that would launch a powerful civil rights campaign. The Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., a gifted orator who had been influenced by India's Mahatma Gandhi in his belief in nonviolent protest, rose quickly to lead the movement.



### [Historically Black Colleges and Universities.](#)

Until the civil rights movement, most American blacks could get a college education only from historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). These institutions became the primary source of community leaders and centers of African-American intellectual life.

## **ACCESO A BASE DE DATOS**

Además de la información que se encuentra disponible en Internet, el IRC cuenta con acceso a bases de datos que ofrecen el texto completo de más de 10.000 publicaciones periódicas. Estos son, a modo de ejemplo, algunos artículos recientes sobre el desarrollo de pequeñas y medianas empresas.



### [The Changing Definition of African-American.](#)

By Ira Berlin. Smithsonian Magazine, February 2010. How the great influx of people from Africa and the Caribbean since 1965 is challenging what it means to be African-American.



### [Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess" Celebrates Its 75th Anniversary.](#)

By Lauren Monsen, staff Writer . America.gov.. February 1, 2010. Beloved, once-controversial opera showcases America's rich musical heritage when the opera Porgy and Bess was first performed 75 years ago in New York and Boston, it generated both controversy and acclaim.





### [Museum Seeks to Document the African-American Experience.](#)

By Lauren Monsen. Staff Writer. America.gov. January 27, 2010. National Museum of African American History and Culture starts new program.



### [Henrietta Lacks Immortal Cells.](#)

By Sara Zielinski. Smithsonian.com, January 22, 2010. Journalist Rebecca Skloot's new book investigates how a poor black tobacco farmer had a groundbreaking impact on modern medicine.

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## **¿QUÉ ES EL CENTRO DE DOCUMENTACIÓN?**



El Centro de Documentación o IRC por su sigla en inglés (*Information Resource Center*) fue creado para apoyar los programas de la Embajada de los Estados Unidos de América.

Nuestro público incluye oficiales del gobierno uruguayo, formadores de opinión en los sectores público y privado, estudiantes, docentes, comunicadores, investigadores y profesionales. Brindamos información precisa, actualizada, oficial y no oficial sobre los Estados Unidos en las áreas de:

- |                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| • Economía              | • Narcotráfico   |
| • Legislación           | • Terrorismo     |
| • Democracia            | • Medio Ambiente |
| • Derechos Humanos      | • Biotecnología  |
| • Propiedad Intelectual | • Temas Sociales |

## **SOBRE ESTE PRODUCTO**

En esta Webliografía sobre la Historia Afro-Americana que compartimos con Uds. incluimos algunos sitios de Internet y publicaciones que no son oficiales, por lo tanto su contenido puede no coincidir necesariamente con las opiniones del gobierno de los Estados Unidos.

Links to Internet sites other than official US Government sites (State Department, US Department of Commerce, etc.) should not be construed as an endorsement of the views contained therein.

## **¿CÓMO REALIZAR CONSULTAS?**

Si desea consultar los libros, revistas o bases de datos disponibles en el Centro, o necesita asistencia para localizar información sobre los temas de Estados Unidos antes mencionados, sírvase comunicarse de lunes a viernes de 9:00 a 17:30hs por el teléfono 418 77 77 int. 2164 // 2166, por el fax 413 05 14, o por correo electrónico a: [ircmvd@state.gov](mailto:ircmvd@state.gov). El acceso es con cita previa.

Los servicios del IRC están destinados a instituciones, tanto gubernamentales como privadas, investigadores, medios de prensa, y docentes, y son totalmente gratuitos.

El Centro funciona en Lauro Muller 1776, dentro del edificio de la Embajada de los Estados Unidos, en el horario de lunes a viernes de 9:00 a 17:30 hs.

Para las personas que residen en el interior del país, el IRC recibe y responde consultas por correo electrónico, teléfono, fax o correo postal.



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